

**THE HIGHWAYS AGENCY
A556 KNUTSFORD TO BOWDON IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

**THE A556 (KNUTSFORD TO BOWDON IMPROVEMENT)
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER 201[]**

**NOTICE OF ISSUE SPECIFIC, COMPULSORY ACQUISITION AND OPEN-FLOOR
HEARINGS**

**SECTIONS 91, 92 AND 93 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008
RULE 13(6) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE)
RULES 2010**

PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE: TR010002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that issue specific hearings, compulsory acquisition hearings and open floor hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government) for the examination of the application by the Highways Agency for a Development Consent Order for the proposed A556 Knutsford To Bowdon Improvement Scheme.

The application was made to the Planning Inspectorate under Sections 14, 22 and 37 of the Planning Act 2008 on the 24th April 2013, and was accepted for examination by the Secretary of State on the 17th May 2013.

The application seeks development consent for powers to construct a new section of highway and make improvements to the existing A556 trunk road in Cheshire between M6 Junction 19 near Knutsford, Cheshire and M56 Junction 7 near Bowdon, Greater Manchester, and would include improvements to the M6 Southbound carriageway between M6 Junction 19 and Knutsford Services.

The hearings will be held at the following dates, times and locations:

Hearing Type	Date	Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing - alternative options and alignments including junction proposals, traffic flows and noise / air quality assessments	Wednesday 11 th December 2013	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Issue Specific Hearing - alternative options and alignments including junction proposals, traffic flows and noise / air quality assessments	Thursday 12 th December 2013	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Issue Specific Hearing - first consideration of draft Development Consent Order wording including its requirements and protective provisions	Friday 13 th December 2013	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Open Floor Hearing	Tuesday 17 th December 2013	Starting at 14:00 (Registration from 13:30)	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Open Floor Hearing	Tuesday 17 th December 2013	Starting at 19:30 (Registration from	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road,

		19:00)	Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing - and related accompanied site visit	Wednesday 18 th December 2013	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing - and related accompanied site visit	Thursday 19 th December 2013	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing - and related accompanied site visit	Friday 20 th December 2013	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing - and related accompanied site visit	Tuesday 7 th January 2014	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Cottons Hotel & Spa, Manchester Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0SU
Further Issue Specific Hearing - alterations to the wording of the draft Development Consent Order, its requirements and protective provisions	Wednesday 8 th January 2014	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Cottons Hotel & Spa, Manchester Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0SU

At the hearings, each interested party may (subject to the Examining Authority's control over the conduct of the hearing) make oral representations about the specific issues referred to above but should not repeat other representations already made in any form.

Interested parties include any person who has made a relevant representation to the Examining Authority in accordance with section 102(4) of the Planning Act 2008, as well as the applicant and various persons and bodies prescribed by statute.

Any hearings further to those listed above will be advertised by one or more further notices. In accordance with Rule 13(3) of Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, as amended, the Planning Inspectorate will also notify interested parties and affected persons of the date, time and place fixed for each hearing.

In addition to the above hearings, which are subject to this notice under Rule 13(6) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, the Examining Authority has arranged the following initial accompanied site visits:

Visit Type	Date	Time	Location
Initial accompanied site visit to application site and surrounding area	Monday 9 th December 2013	Starting at 14:00 (Registration from 13:30)	Meeting place: Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE
Initial accompanied site visits to historic properties affected by the scheme and other locations expressly requested by land-owners	Tuesday 10 th December 2013	Starting at 10:00 (Registration from 09:30)	Meeting place: Curzon Knutsford Cinema, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0PE

It is possible that, following the above initial accompanied site visits, further accompanied site visits will take place during the week commencing Monday 6th January 2014. As the dates, times and locations for any of these site visits may change, it is recommended that arrangements for them are checked with the Planning Inspectorate before making a journey to attend them. The Planning Inspectorate's webpage for the development can be accessed here: <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/north-west/a556-knutsford-to-bowdon-scheme/>

Alternative methods of contacting the Planning Inspectorate are provided towards the end of this notice.

Copies of the application documents, including the draft Development Consent Order, the compulsory acquisition information – including the Land Plans, Book of Reference, Funding Statement and Statement of Reasons – and the Environmental Statement, can be viewed and downloaded online on the Planning Inspectorate’s webpage for the development:

<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/north-west/a556-knutford-to-bowdon-scheme/>

Copies of these application documents may also be inspected free of charge at the following locations during the hours set out below:

Venue	Viewing Hours
Knutford Library Toft Road Knutford Cheshire WA16 0PG Telephone: 01625 374873 E-mail: knutford.library@cheshireeast.gov.uk	Monday: 09:00 - 17:00 Tuesday: 09:00 - 19:00 Wednesday: 09:00 - 13:00 Thursday: 09:00 - 19:00 Friday: 09:00 - 17:00 Saturday: 09:30 - 13:00 Sunday: Closed
Cheshire East Council’s Macclesfield Customer Service Centre Town Hall Market Place Macclesfield SK10 1EA Telephone: 0300 123 5500	Monday-Friday: 08:45 – 17:00 Saturday-Sunday: Closed

Copies can be made of documents, but there will be a charge for this.

* Due to the Christmas / New Year holidays and other possible closures, it is recommended that viewing hours are checked with the venue before making a journey to view the application documents.

Further information about the application, the hearings and this notice may be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate or the Highways Agency’s A556 Knutford to Bowdon Project Team:

The Planning Inspectorate Temple Quay House Temple Quay Bristol BS1 6PN Telephone: 0303 444 5000 E-mail: KnutfordtoBowdon@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk Website: http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/	A556 Knutford to Bowdon Project Team Major Projects Highways Agency Piccadilly Gate Store Street Manchester M1 2WD Telephone: 0161 930 5998 E-mail: A556knutfordbowdon@highways.gsi.gov.uk
Please quote the Planning Inspectorate reference TR010002 in all correspondence with the Planning inspectorate about this scheme.	

Jeremy Bloom
 Major Projects North Divisional Director
 Highways Agency
 Lateral
 8 City Walk
 Leeds
 LS11 9AT

13th November 2013